

REMARKS

The Examiner's comments regarding consideration given to the references accidentally crossed out on the Form SB/08A are noted with appreciation.

The objection to the Abstract is noted. Applicants have amended the Abstract in consideration of the Examiner's comments and suggestions to obviate the offending clause. As amended, the Abstract is now submitted to be in conformance with the requirements.

The objections to claims 7 and 16 are noted. Applicants have amended these claims in consideration of the Examiner's comments and suggestions to obviate the objectionable language. These claims as amended are now submitted to define the invention with sufficient particularity and distinctiveness to be patentable to applicants.

The rejected claims 1, 12 and 22-26 have been cancelled.

Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 12-14, and 17 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by O'Brien '831. The subject matter of claim 1 has been rewritten more specifically as new claim 27, and the subject matter of claim 12 has been rewritten more specifically as new claim 28. These claims as amended now define the invention with greater particularity and as amended now variously recite a system and method including "a schedule table provided on the internal server, the schedule table storing a schedule created by the managing party; a common

schedule table provided on the public web server, the common schedule table storing the schedule transferred from the internal server so that the managed parties refer to the schedule” and “the internal server is further configured to reject a direct access from the managed parties”.

In addition, the dependent claims are further restricted by various recitations of the system and method including “the receiving means further receives the modification data entered via the modification means by the managed parties”, or “the transfer of the schedule to the common schedule table is automatically activated in response to the modification being completed”, or “in response to a click of a transfer button provided on the page, the modification data entered in the page is transferred to the public web server”.

These aspects of the claimed invention permit the managing party to modify a schedule provided on an internal server while the managed parties refer to a schedule provided on a public web server. This prevents the managed parties from gaining direct access to the schedule on the internal server of the managing party.

These aspects of the claimed invention are not disclosed by O’Brien ‘831 in which both the manager 130 and the employees 120 access the host to refer to and modify the schedule provided on the host. As this reference is understood, a host server 110 and a first client-side machine (the manager 130) are connected to the network. The first client side machine 130 logs onto the host 110 to send schedule

requirements. The host processes the schedule requirements and creates a schedule in accordance with the processed schedule requirements. A plurality of second client side machines (employees 120) are also connected to the network. The second client side machines can also send schedule requirements to the host. The host processes the schedule requirements to create a schedule. The host further receives information from the second client side machines and revises the schedule. The revised schedule is then made accessible to the first and second client side machines.

Thus, claims 27, 2, 3, 6, 7, 28, 13, 14, and 17 as amended are not anticipated by, but instead are submitted to be patentably distinguishable over, O'Brien '831.

Claims 4, 5, 8-11, 15, 16 and 18-21 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Brien '831 (as applied above), further in view of Matsuzaki et al. '848. This rejection is respectfully traversed with respect to these dependent claims as amended herein.

Specifically, these amended claims now variously recite the system and method including the limitations of the respective parent claims, as discussed in the above Remarks, and such additional limitations as "the public web server is further configured to provide each of the managed parties with a progress input means; wherein the receiving means further receives progress data entered via the progress input means by the managed parties; wherein the internal server is further

configured to: receive the progress data from the public web server; record the received progress data in the schedule stored in the schedule table”, or “the progress input means includes a page for entering the progress data; and wherein, in response to a click of a transfer button provided on the page, the progress data entered in the page is transferred to the public web server”, or “the internal server is further configured to compare the progress data with the schedule, to assign a mark to the progress data in accordance with the comparison result, and to display the progress by the mark”.

These aspects of the claimed invention are not disclosed or suggested by the cited references considered either alone or in the combination proposed by the Examiner.

Specifically, the deficiencies of disclosure by O'Brien '831 as acknowledged by the Examiner and also as discussed above, are not cured by combining with Matsuzaki et al. '848 which is understood to facilitate access to the common schedule by all managed parties in a manner that does not yield segregation of the schedule on a managing party's internal server in a manner as now claimed by applicants. These deficiencies of disclosures thus fails to establish even a *prima facie* basis from which a proper determination of obviousness can be made. It is therefore respectfully submitted that amended claims 4, 5, 8-11, 15, 16 and 18-21 are now patentably distinguishable over the cited art.

Reconsideration and allowance of claim 2-11, 13-21, 27 and 28 over the
cited art (including the references cited but not applied) are solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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